and refurnishing units under EHTP are allowed to import goods *vide* Notification No. 134/94-Cus. dated 22.6.1994. This has already been clarified *vide* Ministry of Finance, Deptt. of Revenue Instructions issued from F.No. 314/21/93-FTT dated 2nd August, 1994. Therefore, EHTP Units engaged in repairing and refurnishing are allowed to import goods as per the said Notification.

Import of Gambier

330. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that due to prevalent high prices of catechu and stiff competition in its marketing, a chemical 'Gambier', which can cause several diseases including Cancer, is being widely sold throughout the country as substitute of catechu, leading to almost collapse of catechu cottage industry and rendering lakhs of people unemployed;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to ban import of Gambier in the interests of the catechu growers and to save the people from various dangerous ailments; and

(c) if not, the resons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) Gambier is a vegetable based tanning material and is used for dyeing purposes by the leather industry. Since the basic objective of the Foreign Trade Policy is to provde raw materials at international prices it may not be possible to restrict import of Gambier as it may have an adverse impact on export of leather goods from India.

Allocation of funds for industrial areas

331. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds as sought by the State Governments of Rajasthan and Punjab and the amount allocated for improvement of infrastructure in industrial areas for the State for the year 2003-04 as compared to 2002-03;

(b) the funds released to the State during the last five years;